GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:482
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015
OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY
Puttaraju Shri C.S.

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the fifth largest wind energy developer in the world and is looking to tap over 7,500 k.m. long coastline for development of offshore wind energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the implementation of offshore wind energy projects also depends upon firming up of the wind resource, oceanographic studies, environmental impact assessment and various clearances required for such projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL & NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b): Yes Madam. India with a wind power installed capacity of 22,598 MW (as of 31st January, 2015) is the fifth largest wind producer after China, USA, Germany and Spain.

The preliminary analysis of data available with some organizations like Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services including National Institute of Wind Energy studies suggests that there could be offshore wind energy potential in coastal area of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Further, Scottish consultancy organization's preliminary study indicates a potential of 1 GW each at Kanyakumari and Rameshwaram. However, this requires validation by setting up of offshore mast to measure 2-3 years ofwind speed data.

The Government is also working on Draft National Offshore Wind Energy for the approval of Cabinet.

(c)&(d): Yes Madam. The major challenges in deployment of offshore wind power projects in India include limited data on resource characterization, unclear regulatory and policy framework, technical issues and weak infrastructure to support fabrication, installation, maintenance, interconnection and evacuation of electricity from these systems. The main clearances required for setting up offshore wind projects include those regarding environmental, security, aviation, oil exploration zones etc.